Message Text

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TAGS: TECH, TGEN, TSPA, IR

SUBJ: LANDSAT: REMOTE SENSING, EARTH RESOURCES

1. ON JANUARY 26, 1977, PETE THOME/NASA, WASHINGTON HQ, GAVE WELL-RECEIVED ILLUSTRATED SEMINAR AT PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION (PBO) ON LANDSAT CAPABILITIES IN SUCH AREAS AS AGRICULTURE, WATER RESOURCES

FORESTRY, GEOLOGY, CARTOGRAPHY, RANGE MANAGEMENT, ETC. CONFERENCE ROOM AT PBO WAS FILLED TO CAPACITY (70 ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE). THOME'S PRESENTATION, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY EMBASSY SCIENCE ATTACHE, WAS FOLLOWED BY ACTIVE QUESTION/ANSWER PERIOD. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE BY ALI GHAZI, CHIEF, REMOTE SENSING AND DATA COLLECTION DIVISION, PBO.

2. FOLLOWING PLEASANT, SMALL LUNCH AT NATIONAL IRANIAN RADIO-TELE-VISION CLUB, THOME WAS FLOWN BY HELICOPTER (COURTESY NIRT) FOR ON-SITE INSPECTION OF STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION OF LANDSAT RECEIVER STATION OUTSIDE KARAJ. BECAUSE OF CEMENT SHORTAGES AND COLD WEATHER, PROGRESS IS BEHIND SCHEDULE. HOWEVER, PBO AND NIRT EXPECT AT LEAST PART OF GROUND STATION TO BE OPERATIONAL BY JULY OR AUGUST OF THIS YEAR.

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3. IN COURSE OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, GHAZI REPORTED TO THOME AND SCIENCE ATTACHE THAT SERIOUS CONSIDERATION IS STILL BEING GIVEN TO CREATING AN "IRANIAN NASA" TO OPERATE THE LANDSAT STATION AS WELL AS CARRY OUT OTHER SPACE, SATELLITE AND POSSIBLY TELECOMMUNICATION WORK. GHAZI MENTIONED THAT THE GOI ENVISIONS THAT THIS WOULD BE AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY ANALOGUE

TO THE ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION OF IRAN (AEOI). MIKLOS

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